

MONTANA STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: December 19, 2013

Agenda Item: Commercial Use Permit Fee Rule

Division: Parks

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 15 minutes

Background: The department's authority to administer commercial use is currently established in ARM 12.14.101 through 12.14.170. In December 2011 the FWP Commission adopted the Biennial Commercial Use Permit Fee Rule which is applicable to all FWP lands and scheduled to expire on December 9, 2013. The Parks Division seeks to adopt a state parks specific Commercial Use Permit Annual Rule under the authority of the new Montana State Parks & Recreation Board and over the course of the next year address proposed changes to the Commercial Use ARM Rule which reflect staff recommendations and feedback from commercial service providers.

Public Involvement Process & Results: The proposed Commercial Use Permit Fee Rule was posted for a 30 day public comment period on November 5, 2013. One public comment was received expressing support for commercial use fees as a source of revenue for state parks with suggested conditions that commercial use does not deface property or disrupt visitor enjoyment.

Alternatives and Analysis: **Alternative # 1:** 1) Adopt a state park specific Commercial Use Permit Fee Rule under the authority of the Montana State Parks and Recreation Board that maintains current commercial use fees and, 2) over the course of the coming year address proposed changes to the Commercial Use ARM Rule which reflect staff recommendations and feedback from commercial service providers.

Alternative # 2: Do not adopt a state park specific Commercial Use Permit Fee Rule which would eliminate the parks division's authority to administer commercial use fees effective December 9, 2013.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale: State Parks staff recommends the Board adopt the Commercial Use Permit Fee Rule as proposed.

Proposed Motion: I move that the Board adopt the Commercial Use Permit Fee Rule as proposed.